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REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful review of the application as set forth in the outstanding office action. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-13 and 15-25 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-6 and 14 have been rejected.

Objections to Abstract

The objection that the content of the abstract is not tailored to the currently selected claims is addressed by the foregoing amendment.

The objection that the abstract fails to narrate within a suggested range of 50 to 150 words is respectfully traversed. The given range is merely a suggested range; there is no requirement that an abstract have 50 to 150 words. Accordingly, the objection is without legal justification, and should be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

The objection to Claim 1 has been addressed by amending the claim in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

Claims 1-3 and 14 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Maza et al. ("Maza") in view of Gudaitis et al. ("Gudaitis").

Claims 1-3 stand alternatively rejected as being unpatentable over Maza in view of Baker et al. ("Baker").

Claims 5-6 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Maza in view of Baker and Scheuer.

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Claim 4 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Maza in view of Gudaitis and Sievert et al. ("Sievert").

These rejections should be withdrawn, pursuant to 35 USC 103©, providing a prior art exclusion for certain commonly assigned patents. Particularly, Baker and Gudaitis each issued after the filing date of the subject patent application, i.e. July 31, 2003. Baker issued on December 21, 2004. Gudaitis issued on December 9, 2003.

The subject application, and the subject matter of Baker and of Gudaitis, were, at the time the invention of the subject application was made, owned by, or subject to an obligation of assignment to, Hewlett-Packard Company.

Moreover, the present application is assigned to Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP as shown by the copy of the assignment recorded in the records of the USPTO as reel/frame no. 014229/0994; the assignment indicates that the transfer is made in accordance with an agreement between Hewlett-Packard Espanola, S.L. and Hewlett-Packard Company, and a further agreement between Hewlett-Packard Company and Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP. Gudaitis and Baker each were also assigned to Hewlett-Packard Company, as indicated by assignment documents recorded in the PTO at reel/frame 012585/0027 on January 25, 2002, and at reel/frame 009744/0954 on February 1, 1999, respectively. The first page of each of Gudaitis and Baker indicate that each is assigned to Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP.

This application is subject to the prior art exclusion provided by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999, thereby mooting all pending obviousness rejections.

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CONCLUSION

The outstanding objections and rejections have been addressed, and the application is in condition for allowance. Such favorable reconsideration is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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